THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) and (b) On the basis of demand made by Gujarat Electricity Board (GEB), the Standing Linkage Committee, which is an inter-ministerial body comprising Ministry of Coal, Ministry of Power, Central Electricity Authority, Power utilities and the Railways, has been making quarterly allocation of coal based on availability and transport feasibility etc. During the months of January and February in the current quarter, the despatch of coal to GEB has been to the extent of 106% of the linked quantity from Korea Rewa Coalfield of the South Eastern Coalfields Limited (SECL).

(c) No, Sir. Coal import is under Open General Licence (OGL). Any consumer, including GEB, is free to import coal.

Increase in the price of coal

† 2709. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN':

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that on an average 13 per cent per annum increase has taken place in the prices of coal for the last 18 years;

(b) if not, the facts in this regard;

(c) whether it is also a fact that inspite of effecting increase in the prices of coal the net annual profit of Coal India Limited has been coming down; and

(d) if not, the assessment with regard to growth rate of annual profit?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The average price of Run of Mines (ROM) coal in 1983-84 and 2000-01 are as follows:—

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Year	Average price of ROM coal (Rs. per tonne)
1983-84 (8.1.84)	183.00
2000-01 (31.1.2001)	653.67

Thus, annualised increase of price oyer a period of 18 year is 8.28%.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) The overall profit and loss for the year 1983-84 and 1999-2000 as per the audited accounts are loss of Rs. 242.68 crores and profit of Rs. 693.87 crores respectively. The annualised growth rate of annual profit from the year 1983-84 to 1999-2000 is 9.42%.

Cost overrun on coal projects

2710. SHRI R. P. GOENKA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 17 of the key coal projects are facing cost overruns of Rs. 10,325 crores as against an original cost of Rs. 9,170 crores and are also behind schedule by upto 96 months from the original date of completion;

(b) if so, the details of each such project wjth reasons for huge cost and time overruns and whether any responsibility has been fixed therefor;

(c) the steps taken to speed up their completion; and

(d) the details of machinery established to monitor implementation of such projects and proposals, if any, to make it more effective?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) and (b) Out of 17 major coal/lignite projects (costing Rs. 100 crores and above), 10 are time overruns. Out of these, 5 are also facing cost overruns. Details of these projects giving, *inter alia*, reasons for time/cost overruns are given in the Statement enclosed. *(See* below).